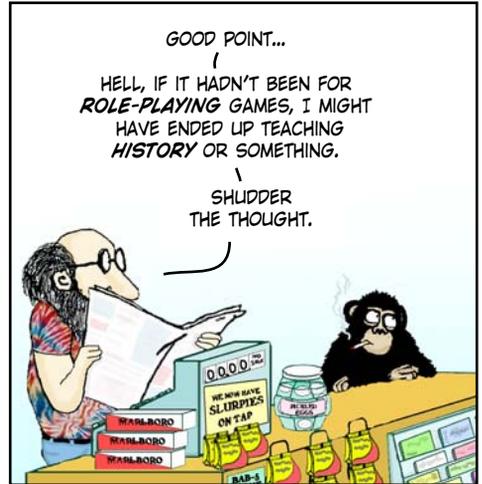
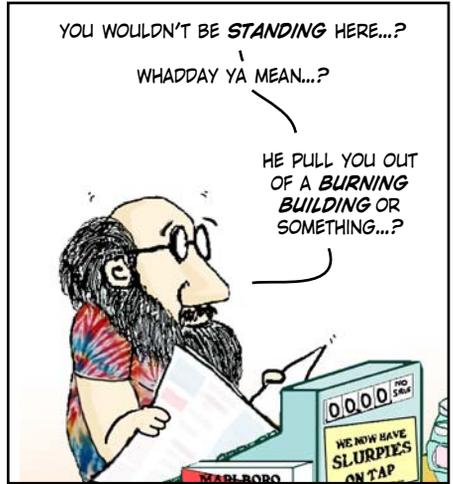


I Heard the News Today...

BY THE KENZERCO D-TEAM

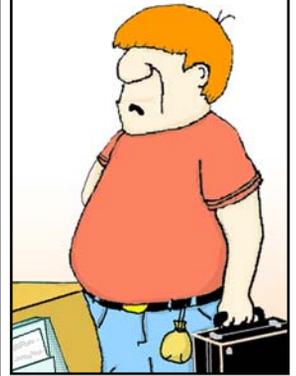


GEEZE LOUEEZE -- THIS HERE *DOCTOR* WROTE A PIECE ON *GARY* ABOUT HOW HE TURNED HIS ENTIRE *LIFE* AROUND.

GOT HIM TO ACTUALLY PICK UP A BOOK AND *READ* AS A LITTLE TYKE...

YOU BEEN ONLINE...?
THE *NET* IS FILLED WITH *STORIES* LIKE THAT.

THE MAN REALLY *TOUCHED* A LOT OF LIVES, PETE.



AS SOON AS THE *NEWS* OF HIS DEATH BROKE, ALL THE *ON-LINE* GAMING FORUMS WERE *FLOODED* WITH TRAFFIC.

THOUSANDS OF GAMERS SEEKING OUT OTHERS.

YEAH, I KNOW. THE *HACK* FORUMS NEARLY CRASHED.

SEEMS EVERYONE WHO EVER PICKED UP DICE AND FILLED OUT A *CHARACTER SHEET* FELT THE NEED TO PAY *TRIBUTE* TO THE MAN.

SHARING A STORY.

POSTING A SIMPLE "*THANKS*"....



AND NOT JUST ACTIVE *GAMERS*.

A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO HAVEN'T GAMED FOR *YEARS* FELT THE NEED TO MAKE THAT *PILGRIMAGE* ONLINE.

PEOPLE I HAVEN'T SEEN IN THE COMMUNITY FOR *YEARS* ARE POSTING.

STRANGE ISN'T IT?

WITH ALL THE *DIVISIVENESS* OVER NEW *EDITIONS* THESE PAST MONTHS AND THE CONTINUAL *FRAGMENTATION* OF THE HOBBY...

IF ONLY FOR A *SHORT TIME* -- ONE MAN'S DEATH SEEMS TO HAVE *REMINDED* EVERYONE THAT WE'RE ALL PART OF THE *SAME* COMMUNITY.

PROBABLY ASKING FOR TOO MUCH BUT I REALLY *WISH* WE COULD *REMEMBER* THAT.



BY THE WAY -- A **BUNCH** OF US ARE GETTING TOGETHER AT **HAWG'S** THIS SATURDAY.

WE'RE GONNA **TOAST** GARY AND ROLL A **TWENTY-SIDED** SALUTE.

GREAT IDEA.

I'M IN.



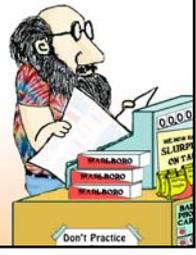
AFTERWARDS, **PATTY** IS GONNA RUN US THROUGH ONE THE FIRST EDITION ADVENTURES THAT CAME IN THE ORIGINAL **BOXED SET**.

IF YOU STILL HAVE YOUR **FIRST** CHARACTER SHE'S GONNA LET FOLKS RUN 'EM.



HOT DAMN!!

I STILL HAVE **THORIN THE DWARF'S** CHARACTER SHEET AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE.



YA KNOW -- ONE OF MY **GREATEST** REGRETS...

I **NEVER** HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY IN A GAME WITH **GARY GYGAX** -- I ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT WOULD BE AWESOME.

NOW I'LL **NEVER** GET THAT CHANCE.



C'MON, BRIAN.

YOU **SURPRISE** ME.

HAVEN'T YOU FIGURED IT OUT...?



HUH...? FIGURED OUT WHAT?



YOU **PLAY** WITH **GARY** EVERY TIME YOU PICK UP THE DICE.

GOOD POINT, PETE.



THANKS FOR ALL THE MEMORIES, GARY. REST IN PEACE.

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT KENZER AND COMPANY